



MIAMI



2.0



THE BEST PLACES
TO EXPLORE IN
MIAMI ARE NOT
WHERE YOU
MIGHT THINK.
OUR EDITORS
GIVE THE
LOWDOWN



In the minds of most, Miami means beach scenes, neon-lit Deco hotels and thumping nightclubs in the core of South Beach. And for good reason—it was the most vibrant scene in town for decades. That's all changed. These days some of the best finds in the city lie in pockets outside the normal tourist haunts. Here, our staff breaks down the Magic City's most dynamic areas, and how to enjoy them.

WYNWOOD/ MIDTOWN/ DESIGN DISTRICT

Wynwood, in the early aughts, was a desolate warehouse district home to only a handful of galleries. Then, street art happened, with Tony Goldman's **Wynwood Walls** and world-renowned artists including Shepard Fairey, as well as locals like FL.Mingo, pasting and painting powerful imagery all over the neighborhood. Today, the area is an ever-changing kaleidoscope of fresh new street art, jet-setters and selfie-taking foot traffic igniting a food, drink and retail renaissance.

Panther Coffee, with their house-roasted terroir-focused beans, led the early charge, leading to a food scene that has taken flight—there were four James Beard semifinalists within three blocks of one another this year. They include heavy-hitting chef Brad Kilgore, who turned this food desert into an elevated dining destination with **Alter**, an industrial chic space whipping up refined New American fare with artful presentations; **Kyu**, a modern Asian barbecue hotspot whose Korean fried chicken attracts a cult following; and **Zak the Baker**, a vibrant Jewish deli serving freshly baked loaves, pickled vegetables and kosher sandwiches.

For a more outdoorsy grub experience, head north to 29th Street for **The Wynwood Yard**—literally a gravel lot with a welcoming bar serving local brews, and food trucks such as **Kuenko** (Japanese-Spanish donburi-style rice bowls), and **Mr. Bing** (whimsical shaved ice cream). Upping the game at the Yard, **Charcoal**, a group of shipping container rejiggered into an eatery, serves grilled meat and seafood dishes. There



Architects like Johnston Marklee and Daly Genik created buildings in the Design District.



Street art in Wynwood

are also four breweries in the district, the most recent of which is **Veza Sur Brewing Co.**, opening this year as a grown-up's playground teeming with beer cocktails and brews served Brazilian "chopp" style. For a more intimate atmosphere, head to micro-brew specialist **Boxelder's** dimly lit L-shaped bar. **Gramps'** tropical dive aesthetic lures the tattooed and skinny jean crowd with weekly drag queen bingo and karaoke nights.

Don't let big box retail like Target dissuade you from visiting Midtown, just north of Wynwood. **Sugarcane**, with its James Beard nomination in 2011, led to the >



COCKTAIL CRAWL

Award-winning barman John Lermayer of Sweet Liberty picks the town's best drinks

Little Havana

Lermayer sticks with the classic mojito at the Cuban throwback **Ball & Chain**. "The bar is what a Cuban bar should be."

Brickell

The Blackbird at **Blackbird Ordinary** is a punchy combo of sweet tea, vodka, lemonade and blackberries. "Absolute gonk cocktail," says Lermayer.

Wynwood

Seek out the Hitch's Kiss (bourbon, cacao nib-infused Disaronno, lemon, blackberry, and black tea syrup) at **Beaker & Gray**. "Despite the suspect name, the cocktail is delicious," he says.

Upper East Side

When at **The Anderson** bar, nab the whiskey/ coconut water combo called the **501 State**, a favorite among a menu of standout cocktails. Simply put, "You won't regret it."

TOP: BILL KIRKNEY; BOTTOM: RIGHT: BETTY HAUZDER; WYNWOOD: WENDY B. SWANSON



The Hitchwell (Cacha, Amaretto rosa, vodka, citrus, strawberry mixer) at Beaker & Gray

area's upswing with their global-inspired tapas. Now **GLAM**, a fast-casual vegan joint, is attracting droves of locals, as is retro Japanese gastropub **Gaijin Izakaya by Cake**. And male grooming salon (offering manicures) **Hammer & Nails** opened this spring as a respite for those lugging heavy shopping bags.

Pop a few blocks north and you're in the Design District, one of the most rarefied high-end retail realms in the U.S., replete with shops such as **Louis Vuitton**, **Fendi** and **Hermès** and some of the best restaurants in the city.

The food scene has taken flight—there were four James Beard semifinalists within three blocks of each other this year.



Mandolin Aegean Bistro in the Design District



Rice bowls from Kusko at The Wynwood Yard

like award-winning chef Michael Schwartz's flagship **Michael's Genuine** and the charming Greek/Turkish eatery **Mandolin**. The second phase of luxe retail has seen **Saint Laurent** open this year, with **Gucci**, **Dolce & Gabbana** and others slated this fall in an area on 41st Street called **Paradise** >



Coyo Taco in Wynwood



Fluke Mosaic
at Alter

Plaza. And it's not just retail. The Design District's **Institute of Contemporary Art** reopens next month in swanky new digs with pieces from legends like Picasso and emerging contemporary artists such as Abigail DeVille. Galleries, including non-profit **Locust Projects** and the street-artist-friendly **Primary Projects** are

Nite Owl became Miami's first strictly 35mm theater when it opened in August.

open for perusing, and art installations by The Buckminster Fuller Institute and Zaha Hadid are posted in public areas. **Nite Owl Theater**, which became Miami's first strictly 35mm theater when it opened in August, screens reel-to-reel projections of cult classics like *Re-Animator* and *The Evil Dead* every Saturday night. For an easy bite or a jolt of caffeine, hit **OTL**, a pastel-colored café that opened earlier this year with some of the best people-watching in the Magic City. You might just spot Grammy Award-winning Gloria and Emilio Estefan, who are never too far from their Cuban restaurant **Estefan's Kitchen**, which opened in March.

UPPER EAST SIDE/ LITTLE RIVER/ EDGEWATER

In the postwar boom, before Interstate 95 allowed beach-seekers to skip Biscayne Boulevard, mainland Miami was all the rage. Small but flamboyant MiMo (Miami Modern architecture) hotels lined the strip and attracted the likes of Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr. Though the area crashed in the ensuing decades (hotels offered hourly rates), these days the MiMo area is historically preserved, and the neighborhoods of the Biscayne Corridor, running from 15th Street to 85th Street, are favorites of locals.

At the northern end (Upper East Side), be sure to check out the **Vagabond Hotel**, not only for its quintessential MiMo lines and clever room revamps, but also its dining and gay-friendly Sunday pool party. A few blocks away, **The Anderson** bar has earned a reputation as the mainland go-to for rad '80s nostalgia and dark corners in which to make mistakes. Drinks such as the Beets By Bro (mezcal, fresh beet juice, lime bitters, sage) come from the famed Broken Shaker crew, while tunes range from Smiths cover bands to DJs spinning '90s hip-hop.

Miami's pizza awakening has reached the Upper East Side >



The Vagabond Hotels
reunite rooftop celebs
MiMo architecture



Bill Brady
Miami gallery
in Little River

COURTESY: TRACY CARROLL; BOTTOM COURTESY: ORHELL; BRADY: OWEN AND JACQUES MAUREL; UPS: PAMELA; EAST: JEFF; WEST: BILL COBURN



with **Paulie Gee's**, a Southern outpost of the lionized Brooklyn eatery, where you can geek out over dough with owner Jason Weisberg. Nearby, **Ironside Pizza**, tucked into an industrial strip-turned-design-hub, also offers excellent pies and no corkage fee.

West of the Biscayne/MiMo strip you'll find the Little River/Little Haiti neighborhood, an unpolished mix of residential and warehouse blocks where some of Miami's best art galleries have cropped up since fleeing rent hikes in Wynwood. **Nina Johnson** bought her eponymous gallery space on 63rd Street and NW 2nd Avenue, as did **Emerson Dorsch** a few blocks south, while nearby **Spinello Projects** and **Bill Brady Miami** bring cultural cachet to a warehouse conversion development known as **Little River // Miami**.

Little River // Miami is also home to **Imperial Moto Café**, which dishes out local coffee, tea, clothes and high-end motorcycle gear, and in the coming months, celebrated Melrose Avenue women's lifestyle boutique **TenOverSix** will move in with an array of design and fashion offerings such as Rachel Comey tunic dresses and colorful hand-woven Truss tote bags from Oaxaca, Mexico. For the boys, there's by-appointment-only **Fabrice Tardieu**,



Tequila-based **Life by Stereo** cocktail at **The Anderson**. Top: Fabrice Tardieu

whose high-end kicks have adorned the feet of Common, Will Smith and Dwyane Wade.

Hop a few blocks south and you're in the heart of Little Haiti, where the spartan **Clive's Café**, another Wynwood escapee, dishes Jamaican faves such as curried goat, cow foot and what many say is the best jerk chicken in town. Local foodies are also waiting impatiently for the early winter (hopefully) opening of **Wessel's Tropical BBQ**, where James Beard nominee Kris Wessel promises Florida, Caribbean and American South flavors worked into wood-fired heritage pork, oxtail, goat and wild boar.

Biscayne Boulevard runs south to Downtown Miami, but on the way, you'll find the Edgewater neighborhood, where an explosion of bayfront condos has prompted food offerings worth your attention. **Michael Schwartz** is slated to open **Amara at Paraiso** right on the bay this month, with a beach club setting and Latin American and coastal flavors. A bit further south, you'll find **Mignonette**, run by a chef and a food blogger who used to argue about food until they joined forces to operate a raw bar with plenty of TLC, and offer fried clams good enough to conjure the Maine coast. >



ON THE HORIZON

Miami's food future is bright

Food Halls

The Magic City's going all-in on food halls with seven in development, including Brickell City Centre's 40,000-sq-ft Italian concept, **La Centrale** (Dec. 2017), **St. Roch Market** (Spring 2018), **Design District** and **Time Out Market** (Spring 2018, South Beach).

More Food and Drink

Broken Shaker alum **Brian Griffiths** will be whetting appetites with **Old Florida**-inspired restaurant **Over Under** in Downtown (Spring 2018), next to denim boutique-turned-pub **Lost Boy Dry Goods** (Winter 2017). **Little River** gets roasting genius **Counter Culture Coffee** (Spring 2018) while the **Design District** pulls in a Japanese-influenced wood-fired American bistro from **Alton's Brad Kilgore** as well as Michelin-starred chef **Joel Robuchon** with four separate concepts, including a fine dining restaurant, a casual lounge, café and an outdoor dining terrace.

Fried oysters at **Mignonette**, north of Downtown

SOUTH BEACH/ MID BEACH/ SURFSIDE

Miami Beach, with its constant need to please travelers, is always getting a facelift, particularly in the heart of South Beach. But the last few years have seen pockets of excellent food and retail pop up in areas outside of the melex.

Fine dining reigns in the well-heeled and somewhat subdued residential neighborhood South of Fifth. At the effortlessly chic **Foro dei Marmi**, Michelin-starred chef Antonio Mellino has brought his sublimely simple Italian fare to a 1998 deco structure on Ocean Drive. Around the corner lies what is arguably South Beach's best new restaurant, **Upland**, a Manhattan spinoff that provides a glowing showcase for Justin Smillie's California-inspired cuisine.

Less about massive clubs than it was in the past, South Beach has a new crop of bars. **Jezebel Bar + Kitchen** is a cozy lounge just off Lincoln Road that feels sophisticated on a Thursday night, but is casual enough to show NFL games on Sunday. A few blocks west, taco eatery **Bodega** has a hidden door that leads to a speak-easy-style space with potent drinks, while next door, comfort meets nostalgia at **Ricky's**, a lounge that attracts an ebullient



California Dreamado (watermelon yogurt soft serve, cocoa crumbs, white chocolate pearls) at Upland



Cucumber Mint Collins at Jezebel Kitchen + Bar

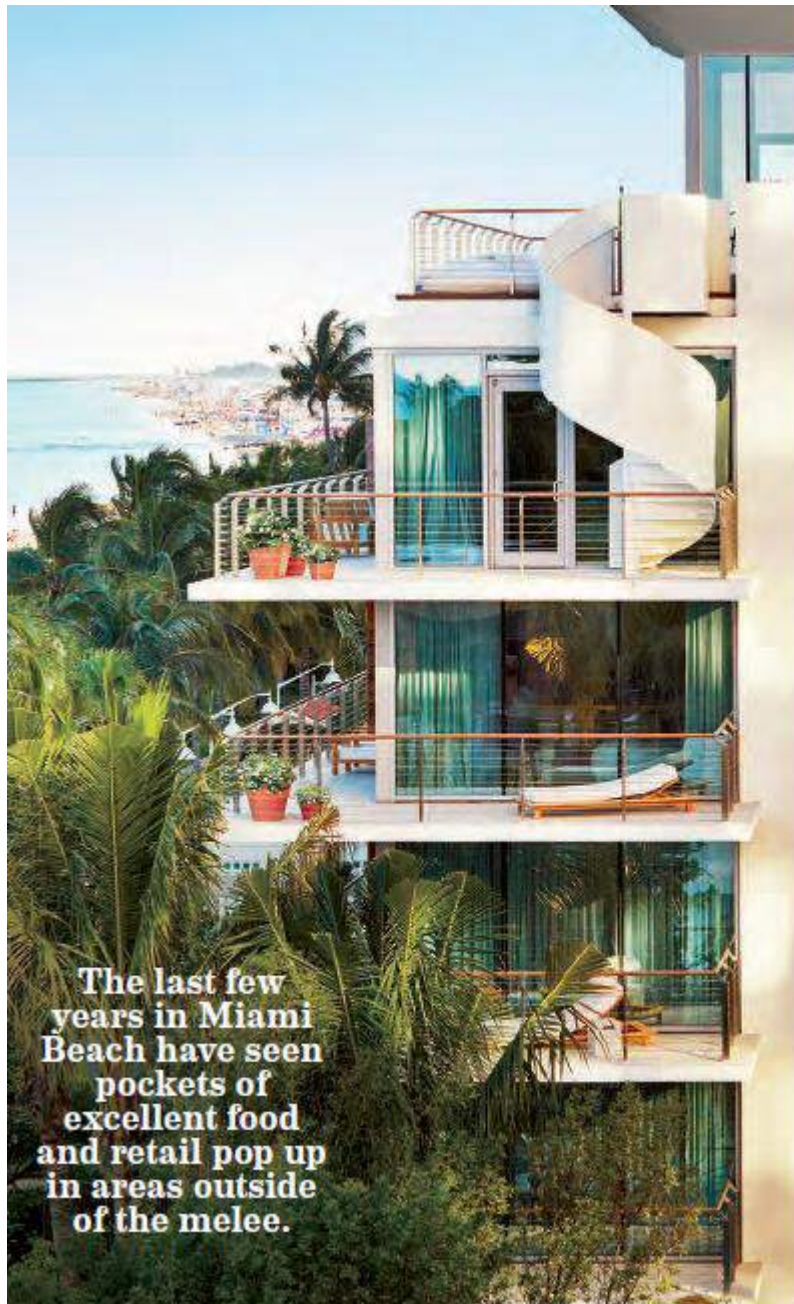


crowd with throwback arcade games, neon lighting and specialty slices from New York sensation **Artichoke Pizza**. Once a pizza wasteland, South Beach now enjoys a boom with standouts including **Mister Ot**, a clandestine pizzeria hidden in an office building, and **Lucali**, a Brooklyn favorite that locals often combine with a visit to the nearby **Bay Club** in the somewhat off-the-beaten-path Sunset Harbour neighborhood.

Indeed, if anywhere feels like old South Beach, it's Sunset Harbour, with its unique boutiques, from the fashion-forward women's clothing **Frankie** to the upscale vintage store **What Goes Around Comes Around**, specializing in rare Chanel, Vuitton and the like. Nearby, a new seafood-themed >

Above: Jezebel Kitchen + Bar
Right: Edison Hotel
Bottom left: Linguine alla Vongole at Le Sirenuse





The last few years in Miami Beach have seen pockets of excellent food and retail pop up in areas outside of the melee.

PIED-À-MIAMI

Want to stay a bit longer? New and pending condo projects offer options in different areas

Brickell

The SLS Brickell Hotel & Residences has common spaces and hotel rooms designed by Philippe Starck, 133 SLS hotel rooms, 450 SLS-branded condo spaces and food concepts from both José Andrés and Michael Schwartz.

Edgewater

Due in early 2018, the 53-story Gran Paraiso sits on Biscayne Bay with amenities that include a bowling alley, private waterfront club, and landscaping by Enzo Enea.

Midtown

Said to top off in spring 2018, Hyde Midtown has 50 hotel rooms and 410 condo units. Amenities include a seventh-floor tennis court, outdoor putting green, fitness facilities and spa, as well as access to the beach club at SLS South Beach.

Coconut Grove

The three-tower Park Grove, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning OMA/Rem Koolhaas, is enhanced by a Jaume Plensa sculpture and artwork by Michale Oka Doner, and includes a 24-seat private screening room, private wine storage, poolside cabanas and views of Biscayne Bay.

Miami River

Due in 2020, the riverfront One River Point has two 60-story residential towers, a private members' Sky Club and a waterfront restaurant.

Hallandale Beach

Designed by Enrique Norton, and topping off in 2019, the 38-story 2008 Ocean will have only 64 units, with views of the Atlantic Ocean, surrounding beaches and the Intracoastal Waterway.



Damien Hirst's *Gold Bone Not Forgotten* at Faena

basement, a vibrant nightclub featuring not only a bowling alley but also an (original) ice-skating rink.

Much has been gushed about the **Faena Hotel** and its corresponding **Arts District** a few blocks to the north, but the property—envisioned by flamboyant Argentine provocateur Alan Faena—has definitively raised the hospitality bar for Miami. From the lobby's lushly opulent murals and gold-leaf columns to artist Damien Hirst's gold-painted skeleton of a woolly mammoth positioned near the beach, the environment is like a stage set, on which guests can create their own individual narratives.

In pleasantly removed Surfside, just north of the Miami Beach border, **Four Seasons The Surf Club** has beautifully restored a 1930 Mediterranean Revival structure, which houses an outpost of **Le Sirenuse**, the iconic dining haunt on Italy's Amalfi Coast (don't miss the restaurant's exquisite **Champagne Bar**), as well as an upcoming restaurant from culinary superstar Thomas Keller, set to open in 2018. Guests retire to sleek towers designed by Pritzker Prize-winner Richard Meier.



The vodka-based *Penasoplo* cocktail at **Matador Room**

eatery, **Stiltsville Fish Bar**, offers raw plates, shrimp 'n' grits and whole fish fried or steamed—a necessity in a town curiously bereft of sea-inspired dining.

A decade ago, Mid Beach (from 23rd Street to 41st Street) was an afterthought. Ian Schrager's buzzy **Edition** hotel energized the area with the Spanish/Caribbean-flavored **Matador Room** and the more casual **Market**, which sends out deceptively simple dishes such as burrata with Meyer lemon jam and pizza with black truffle and fontina. Looking for after-dark high jinks? Hit the property's



Ravioli with smoked mozzarella, Pachino tomato and basil at **Forté del Marmi**

DOWNTOWN/ BRICKELL/ MIAMI RIVER

Ten years ago, Downtown Miami was known for its sooty electronics shops and jewelry brokers. Now all that has changed, thanks to big leaps in culture, condos and cuisine. The most significant boon to Downtown is the completion of **Museum Park**, which is home to the stunning **Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM)** and the brand-new **Frost Science** museum, which completes a constellation of walking-distance cultural hubs, including the **Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts**. PAMM is worth a visit, not only for the art, but also for the beautiful Herzog & de Meuron design, which incorporates a broad museum "front porch" looking



A shark swims in the **Frost Science** museum's 500,000-gallon **Giff Stream** aquarium



out onto breezy Biscayne Bay. Steps away, Frost Science opened in May and boasts, among other things, a 500,000-gallon Gulf Stream aquarium and a 250-seat, state-of-the-art planetarium.

When hunger calls, options include **Arson**, a small space with intense, charcoal-grilled flavors by chef Deme Lomas of the much-loved Spain-focused **NIU Kitchen** just blocks away. Another new addition a stroll away is **All Day** café, whose excellent coffee and avocado tartine is worth the walk, or for an easy art-meets-coffee experience, hit **La Muse Café** in the **Epic Hotel**. Downtown nightlife can be found at the **The Langford Hotel**, which embraces prewar design and rooftop city views at **Pawn Broker** lounge.

Head south over the Miami River to Brickell, where Miami's financial district transformed so much in the last two years that it feels as if Miami's center of gravity has shifted. Primary in that shift is the behemoth **Brickell City Centre**, the 4.9-million-square-foot, \$1.05 billion mixed-use complex comprised of two residential towers, two mid-rise office buildings, **EAST**, Miami hotel and a supercharged, multi-level open-air mall with 124 storefronts. Anchored by a 107,000-square-foot **Saks Fifth Avenue**, the mall features the **CMX** luxury cinemas from Mexico, already making ripples for its impressive technology.

Atop **EAST**, Miami, soak in stunning views at the outdoor 40th-floor bar, **Sugar**, or dine downstairs on the fifth floor at **Quinto La Huella**, the first outpost of Uruguay's famed beachfront restaurant, which uses a parrilla to flame-cook outstanding dishes.

Brickell's building boom continues to the south at **SLS Brickell**, a condo-hotel hybrid with Philippe Stark design and restaurants by a pair of James Beard award-winning chefs, José Andrés at **Bazaar** **Mar** and Michael Schwartz at **FYBa**. For late-night fun and over-the-top dining, hit **Komodo**, the swanky Southeast Asian multi-level space owned by famed



Octopus a la plancha at **Quinto La Huella**



PAMM's hanging gardens facing Biscayne Bay



Lupa 35 cocktail at **SLS Brickell's FYBa**



Whimsical nautical decor at José Andrés' **Bazaar Mar**



Brickell City Centre brings 14 brands to the U.S. for the first time

nightlife king David Grutman.

Cutting through both areas is the Miami River, where the banks have become the next area ripe for development. Known best for its two rival fish purveyors—**Casablanca** and **Garcia's**—the River district now features two rival yacht- and champagne-intensive seafood restaurants, **Seaspice** and **Kiki on the River**. But it's the homey **Crust**, nestled inside a former 1950s private residence, that steals the show, delivering unforgettable pastas, pizzas and shrimp cakes by Chef Klime Kovacecki and wife Anita.

LITTLE HAVANA/ COCONUT GROVE/ KEY BISCAYNE

These outliers seem worlds away from the hubbub of downtown and Miami Beach, but that's part of their charm. While Little Havana exudes traditions, the last couple of years have seen an uptick in offerings. It's best to simply stroll down **Calle Ocho** and soak up the colorful atmosphere from the local shops and eateries. After working up an appetite, pop into Cuban staple **El Rey de las Fritas** for a burger, known as a frita. El Rey tops juicy patties with super-crispy shoestring fries, then stuffs it all into a fluffy Cuban roll. Or try the recently opened **Ella's Oyster Bar**, which serves delicious, fresh and shareable seafood like crab croquettes and oysters Rockefeller miles from the beach. Little Havana has also seen a spate of Asian fare, the latest and hottest being the tiny >



The Ritz-Carlton Key Biscayne lobby



Vicky's House Milkshake Bar
Below: Ball & Chain



Lung Yai Thai Tapas. Get there early, and expect lines before diving into small plates worth the cramped quarters.

For something boozier (and one of the city's best happy hours), head a few blocks west to the new and nautical-themed **Bar Nancy**, where this elevated hole-in-the-wall serves craft cocktails without any stuffy 'tude.

Whatever you do, don't set sail from Little Havana without docking at **Ball & Chain**. Credited with sparking the area's winning streak, this lively lounge features over 100 hours of live music each week. There's nothing more quintessentially Miami than sipping mojitos while listening to a salsa band perform on a pineapple-shaped stage.

Once a hippie enclave in the 1980s, Coconut Grove is a quaint tree-lined area with a new pep in its step. Skip the de rigueur mallish spots and instead shoe hunt for Balenciaga and Attico at the chic boutique **The Griffin** or spy jet-setter-themed luggage and other



The storefronts of colorful Little Havana, where you can grab a café con leche

accessories at the kitschy travel store **First Flight Out**. For grub, chef Michael Beltran fuses his Cuban roots with new American style at **Ariete** (don't miss the short rib), or you can absorb the outdoors while noshing on baked crab dip and crispy yucca at **Glass & Vine**, which overlooks Peacock Park and offers glimpses of Biscayne Bay. If gluttony (and nostalgia) are in order, indulge at **Vicky's House Milkshake Bar and Tasting Room**, where the space is decked out like an '80s kitchen. The **Golden Girls** milkshake features bits of toffee, Golden Grahams cereal, banana and—of course—cheesecake.

It's tough to believe the quiet beaches of Key Biscayne are actually connected to Miami. If partying isn't on your itinerary, staying at **The Ritz-Carlton Key Biscayne** provides the natural wonders of Miami without the wild scene. The resort's new **Lightkeepers** restaurant serves one of the most decadent brunches in South Florida, featuring endless champagne and a caviar station. Work off those all-you-can-eat crab claws at the new **Virginia Key Outdoor Center**, where you can rent paddleboards and kayaks. Of course, a visit wouldn't be complete without stopping for a selfie at the iconic **Cape Florida Lighthouse**. **aw**

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Crandon Park, Key Biscayne

BEACH BY MOOD

Looking to party? Chill? Swim? Miami's got beaches for all of the above

Slow Down

Everything seems to slow down a bit once you cross the bridge to Key Biscayne, and the beaches at both Crandon Park and Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park, with their gentle surf and grassy dunes, complete the escape.

Family Time

Ice cream, shopping and public art are all within walking distance of the family-friendly Surfside beach. Did we mention the free Bollywood beach bash on the first Friday of the month?

Party

Craving quintessential South Beach in all its glory? It's 24/7 Spring Break at the LGBTQ-friendly 12th Street strip of sand.

Dog Days

Haulover Beach Park is one of Miami's most popular (and one of the few) dog-friendly beaches (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.).

Surf's (Sometimes) Up

South of Fifth/ South Pointe Park, with a bent toward locals, has a bit of a surf break (weather-dependent), and you can watch ginormous cruise ships come and go through Government Cut.